

Please substitute for the original paragraph on page 1, lines 20 to 24, the following rewritten version of the paragraph on page 1, lines 20 to 24, as amended:

E1  
Manufacturing such a composite is complicated as the various process steps may have to be carried out in different facilities. Depending on the number and type of layers, it is necessary to employ a corresponding number of passes through the machine. As a result of the many layers of adhesive, delamination may readily occur under the conditions required for sterilization.

Please substitute for the original paragraph on page 3, lines 1 to 10, the following rewritten version of the paragraph on page 3, lines 1 to 10, as amended:

E2  
Examples of polyester type films are polyalkylene-terephthalates or polyalkylene-isophthalates with alkylene groups or radicals with 2 to 10 carbon atoms or alkylene groups with 2 to 10 C atoms that are interrupted, e.g., by one or two -O-, such as, polyethylene-terephthalate (PET films), polypropylene-terephthalate, polybutylene-terephthalate (polytetramethylene-terephthalate), polydecamethylene-terephthalate, poly-1,4-cyclohexyl-dimethylol-terephthalate or polyethylene-2,6-naphthalene-dicarboxylate or mixed polymers of polyalkylene-terephthalate and polyalkylene-isophthalate, where the fraction of isophthalate amounts, e.g., to 1 to 10 mol %, mixed polymers and terpolymers, also block polymers and grafted modifications of the above mentioned substances. Other useful polymers are known in the field under the abbreviation PEN.

Please substitute for the original paragraph on page 4, lines 12 to 24, the following rewritten version of the paragraph on page 4, lines 12 to 24, as amended:

E3

The plastic films of the polyamide type contain e.g. polyamide 6, a homopolymeride of  $\epsilon$ -caprolactam (polycaprolactam); polyamide 11, polyamide 12, a homopolymeride of  $\omega$ -laurin-lactam (polylaurinlactam); polyamide 6.6, a homopolymer condensate of hexamethylene-diamine and adipinic acid (polyhexamethylene-adipamide); polyamide 6.10, a homopolymer condensate of hexamethylene-diamine and sebacinic acid (polyhexamethylene-sebacinic-diamide); polyamide 6.12, a homopolymer condensate of hexamethylene-diamine and dodecandic acid (polyhexamethylene-dodecanamide) or polyamide 6-3-T, a homopolymer condensate of trimethylhexamethylene-diamine and terephthalic acid (polytrimethylhexamethylene-terephthalamide), and mixtures thereof. Preferred are polycaprolactams. Coextruded layers of polyamides are advantageously non-stretched. The films of polyamides may be nonstretched or uniaxially or biaxially oriented. The plastic films of the polyamide type may be, e.g., 8 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$  thick, usefully 10 to 40  $\mu\text{m}$ , preferably 15 to 25  $\mu\text{m}$  thick.

Please substitute for the original paragraph on page 5, lines 24 to 35, the following rewritten version of the paragraph on page 5, lines 24 to 35, as amended:

E4

The series of polyamide-polypropylene films may include other variants which result in sterilizable composite films according to the present invention, in

which the composite film exhibits a layer structure containing one superimposed on top of the other or in sequence:

- E4  
cont
- a) a first functional layer containing a plastic film of the following type, viz., polyesters, polyamides or polyolefins or an extrusion layer of polyolefins or one or more layers of lacquer or print and lacquer layers or print layers, and
  - b) a metal foil, and
  - c) a plastic layer having a layer arrangement of coextrusion coated, coextruded and/or extrusion laminated polypropylene/polyamide/polypropylene.
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Please substitute for the original paragraph on page 7, lines 16 to 18, the following rewritten version of the paragraph on page 7, lines 16 to 18, as amended:

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E5

The free side, in particular, of the polyester film, may be coated with EVA (ethylene/vinyl alcohol copolymer) or with an amorphous polyester sealing layer of the A-PET type. Especially preferred are polypropylenes and polyethylene-terephthalates.

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Please substitute for the original paragraph on page 7, lines 35 and 36, the following rewritten version of the paragraph on page 7, lines 35 and 36, as amended:

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E6

For example, products based on maleic acid and modified polypropylene or polyethylene may be employed as bonding agents.

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